

IAF REGION I FAQs

Art Forms

Are these fellowships for visual artists only? No. Artists engaging in all creative disciplines are welcome to apply and will be considered. In the visual arts, this includes not only painters, sculptors, illustrators, but also graphic designers, photographers, videographers, filmmakers and digital media, and crafts. Literary arts include but are not limited to writers of fiction and non-fiction, playwrights and screenwriters, poets and lyricists. Performing arts includes actors, dancers and musicians, but also directors, choreographers, conductors, designers (scenic, lighting, sound, costume, props) are eligible to apply. Cultural practitioners are also eligible, including sustainers of indigenous and other cultures' traditional rituals. The culinary arts, including winemaking and beer brewing, are eligible, as well. As a form of cultural practice, martial arts are also eligible.

Residence

Must I reside within the 5 counties of Region I to apply? Yes. The program recognizes that many artists travel to practice their work or are hired to bring their work to other communities, but this is a program for California-based artists only. You must reside in Region I to apply for the Region I fellowships. If you reside elsewhere in California, you are encouraged to apply to the Individual Artist Fellowships Program for the region in which you reside.

Profession

Must I be employed professionally as an artist to qualify? No. Although the fellowship categories are based upon duration of engagement in creative practice, the program recognizes the fact that many artists are not employed by others to practice their art and other artists do not seek compensation for their work. Therefore, eligibility is open to professionals and non-professionals alike.

Project

Must I propose a project that will need to be completed at the conclusion of the fellowship period? No. There are no restrictions on your use of the grant funds—the fellowships are merit-based awards for your existing body of work and practice. You are not required to create new work or to report back about how you utilized your fellowship funds. However, if you are selected for a fellowship, you will be invited to attend a live check presentation ceremony in your county and encouraged to participate in free networking and professional development webinars where you will have the opportunity to meet other artists and learn about skills and other resources that may be helpful to you in your practice.

Selection Process

Who will select the fellowship recipients? There will be an expert panel of judges in each county, comprised of panel members from that county as well as from other counties in the region. They will be representative of various arts disciplines. Although their identities will not be shared during the selection process, a list of all Region I panelists will be made public after the awarding of the fellowships.

Reporting

Will I need to provide a W9? As the intent behind the Individual Artist Fellowship is charitable, we will not be requesting W9s, nor will 1099s be issued.